



First Lutheran

JANUARY MESSENGER

Issue 1, January, 2015

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A NOTE FROM PASTOR JENNIFER ROSE

Dear Friends,

Forget Christmas, I think January is the most wonderful time of the year. Don't get me wrong, Christmas is great, but when December 25th finally comes around, most of us are so emotionally, financially, and commercially drained that it's kind of a joy when it's all done.

But January is the start of all things new: new calendar, new goals, new dreams, new perspectives, and new possibilities abound. What will 2015 hold for you? Who do you want to become? How will you make those changes this year? Who will you meet, where will you travel, what will you learn?

Those are the fun things to ponder at the start of a new year. But with every new thing, there's also a twinge of uncertainty. Will it be a year of health or illness? Will it be a profitable year or will you be financially strapped? What happens if _____? Do you trust God to lead you through whatever may come?

As I'm recognizing in my own life, trust is much easier said than done. When all is well, it's easy to trust God, when you're being pounded with bad news, it's a different story. So in these times, there is one thing from Christmas that I hold on to: Emmanuel; which means, God with us.

No matter what happens, you are not alone. Whether it's a diagnosis, fuel fill-up, surgery, a bad day, grief, or attacks of every kind, you are not alone. Emmanuel – God is with you. So be encouraged, knowing that you do not face 2015 alone. Through good and bad, God is with you. May you find comfort, as I have, in Psalm 56:

"Be gracious to me, O God, for people trample on me; all day long foes oppress me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many fight against me. O Most High, when I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me? ...Then my enemies will retreat in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me. In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid. What can a mere mortal do to me? My vows to you I must perform, O God; I will render thank offerings to you. For you have delivered my soul from death, and my feet from falling, so that I may walk before God in the light of life."

In Peace and Hope,

Pastor Jennifer Rose

JANUARY WORSHIP THEMES

January 4 "Light Of My Life"

Text: Matthew 2:1-12

Today we celebrate Epiphany – the manifestation of Jesus in our midst. The Wise Men finally make their appearance in the Christmas story and we give thanks for the gift of Jesus – the light of life.

January 11 "You Are Beloved"

Text: Mark 1:4-11

At Jesus' baptism, a voice comes from heaven, saying, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased." We gather to give thanks to God for the gift of baptism and for the gift of being God's beloved sons and daughters.

January 18

"Here I Am, Lord"

Text: 1 Samuel 3:1-10

God's call comes to us in diverse ways. Sometimes it is a dramatic event, and other times it comes in quieter ways that require repetition before it dawns on us that God is calling us to some new expression of discipleship. None of us is immune! In baptism we are all called and ordained to the priesthood of all believers.

January 25 "More than a Fish Tale"

Text: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The people of Nineveh had done so much evil that they deserved to be destroyed. But when they turned and repented of their sins, God changed his mind and did not destroy them. How is their response different from Jonah's... from ours?

2015 RADIO BROADCAST & FLOWER CHARTS ARE UP

They are located on the kiosk in the narthex.
Sign up early to get the dates that you want!!!

Please consider signing up for a radio broadcast if you haven't before...we have many shut-ins that utilize this gift that we provide

Our Christmas Cookies for Special Friends was a huge success!

We delivered over 70 generous plates of Christmas cookies to shut-ins and members of our congregation who no longer bake. Our sincere thanks to the many members who donated their homemade cookies and candies for this special event. We are also grateful for the dedicated drivers who delivered these plates to church members. The feedback the drivers have shared is that the recipients were delighted to receive this Christmas gift from First Lutheran. **Thank you, thank you!**



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Potluck at Noon followed by the Annual Meeting in Fellowship Hall



Winter Weather Information

If Fergus Falls Schools close due to bad weather, the activities at the church that day will be cancelled and the church office will be closed. **Sunday morning worship will never be cancelled**, but please use your good judgment when deciding if you should come to worship or not. REMEMBER you can always listen at home to the 8:30 a.m. worship on KJJJ AM 1020.

January Service Units The following are the people in this Unit**Please say "YES" when you are called to help!**

Ryan/Sarah Cheshire	Leo Jorschumb	Jack/Sandy Pearson
Mike & Janette Fletchall	Angie Julsrud	Peggy Peterson
Richard Goulet	Elsie Knoll	Daniel/Carol Roehl
Clarice Grewe	Linda Kucera	Bob/Susanne Ronning
Carol Hanson	Colleen Kumm	Dustin/Melissa Schwartz
Neil/Madeline Herman	Allen/Sandra Kutzke	Dolores Simdorn
Todd/Tammy Hinsverk	Tracy Lillemon	Gina Steyn
Mary (Boyd) Johnson	Bud/Linda Mellon	Amy Sund
Megan Johnson	Sharon Mesna	Dave/Becky Thole
Tim/Lana Johnson	David Mortenson	Tom/Jeani Trosvig
Toby/Kylene Johnson	Jack/Judy Mouritsen	Nicholas Welde

**DEADLINE
TO SUBMIT
ARTICLES FOR
THE FEBRUARY
MESSENGER IS
JANUARY 21**

**SHARE YOUR GIFTS**

If you haven't had time or maybe misplaced your 2015 Gifts for Living the Mission (Time and Talent) sheet, please stop into church and fill one out. They can be found at the Info Counter and dropped off in the church office. We are working on compiling the lists.

Picture Directory Coming Soon!!

We are planning the production of a 2015 pictorial directory for our church. There is no cost to you or the church to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and picture directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Sign-up in the church office or online now at www.flcffmn.com and click on the link provided.

Watch for more details coming soon!!Pictures will be taken:

2nd & 4th week of March

2nd week of June



The Muriel L. Nelson Scholarship, awarded through the First Lutheran Foundation, is now available. Muriel L. Nelson gifted an endowment to the Foundation to provide scholarships and assistance to persons pursuing a Christian education. This year, two, \$700 scholarships will be awarded to persons pursuing a Christian education at a church related post secondary school and who are members of First Lutheran Church or have families who are members of First Lutheran Church. The application is available by contacting the church office. Questions may be directed to Missy Mattson, Foundation Board Member at missymattson@yahoo.com or 736-6281. The application deadline is April 15, 2015.



The First Lutheran Foundation's mission is to use funds entrusted to it to further the mission of Christ's church so that the blessing of the gospel may be shared with all people. If you would like to learn more about giving to the Foundation, please contact any of the Foundation members: Orrie Leabo, Leonard Hatzenbuhler, Vicki Hanneman, Chad Felstul, Linda Mellon, or Missy Mattson.

2014 New Members joined First
Lutheran Church on November 23



Love Days Quilters



Meet every Monday (9 am—3 pm)

All women are Welcome to share in
Fellowship and Sewing for our Mission Projects!

WELCA Board will meet Tuesday, Jan. 13 at
10am in the Kairos Room

***Sarah Circle** : Will not meet in January

***Hannah Circle** : Wednesday, Jan 28th 1:00pm
at First Lutheran Church

2015 Offering Envelopes

Are ready to be picked up in the Narthex on
tables. They are in alphabetical order. If you
don't see your envelopes, stop in the church
office and see Leslie.



Kile & Tonya Bergren
Ellie, Katie
218-998-1991



Richard & Debbie Felstul
218-998-2177

2014 New Members joined First
Lutheran Church on November 23



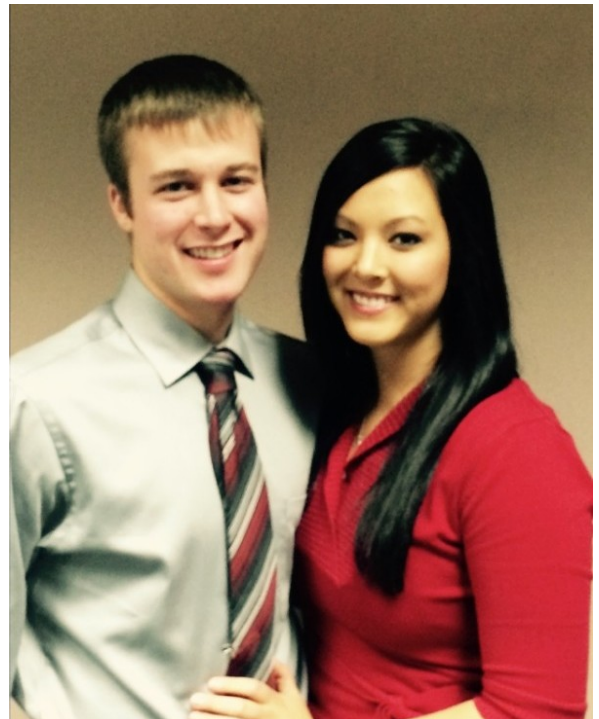
Curt & Ann Rotto
218-739-2488



**Chase Johansen &
Katie Jensen**
320-226-2457

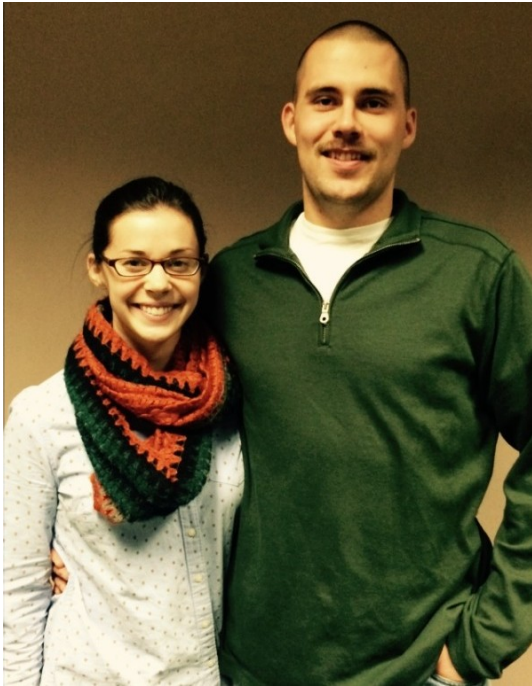


LeRoy & Carol Thompson
218-731-5747



Logan & Jasmine Sonmor
218-205-0436

New Member joining in January:
Clarice Ohman
218-998-9983



Luke Delaney & Sara Parsons
218-330-8056

**2014 New Members joined First
Lutheran Church on November 23**



Paul Hennen & Katie Cox
218-770-4884



Erin Warren
Presley, Zoey
218-770-0467



Teresa Gervais
952-250-0432

First Lutheran Church

Sunday School News

Faith Building

Our Sunday School students were messengers of the Good News of Jesus Christ through the presentation of the Christmas Program last month. We thank all of the students, teachers, directors and musicians for their message. The students celebrated a Birthday Party for Jesus with treats and a visit from "the Holy family". They

brought gifts of mittens and warm items that were donated to the Salvation Army.



We continue on our mission to build the faith by offering Milestone classes for children and their parents. The next class has been prepared for

the Preschool 2 Class. It is an interactive time to practice praying, while playing! It will be held on January 25th for the students and their parents.

•No Sunday School on Jan. 4

SUNDAY SCHOOL
RESUMES ON JANUARY 11

CINDY LARSON

SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUPERINTENDENT

January Happenings

No Sunday School Jan. 4

"Butterflies" for Jan. 11

0-3 yr. olds and parent. Sunday School resumes

"Dragonflies" for Jan. 18
Preschool 2- Kdgn. and parents

Preschool 2
Class with Jan. 25
Parents during Sunday School

Sunday School
Sings at Jan. 25
both services

Faith Builders Art Contest!

Happy New Year!

Our church needs the help of Sunday School to teach everyone what it means to be a "FAITH BUILDER". Show us what you think it means to be a FAITH BUILDER by drawing a picture, writing a story or poem, creating a sculpture...anything! Your artwork will be on display. The artwork must be submitted by Jan. 18, 2015. The winner will present a check to the Habitat for Humanity. Contest is for Kdgn-8th grade.





January FLY News

God is Light!

Upcoming Events:

- * January 21—
SuperFLY (Grades 8-12) **Mystery Dinner**
- * January 25th, Donuts for Detroit! (Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering Group)

Senior Fly Schedule:

(7:30 PM)

January 7

January 14

January 21
(Mystery Dinner)

January 28

God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. (1John 1:5)

After Christmas, do you ever feel that post-Christmas-let down feeling? Do you ever feel “blah” or struggle with depression?

If you have, you are certainly not alone. Even though the days are technically getting lighter at this point, this can feel like a very “dark” time of the year. If you are struggling, you are certainly not alone.

When these feelings become overwhelming (or even if you’re won-

dering about whether they are overwhelming,) it’s important to reach out to a trusted adult for help—this could include a counselor, teacher, other adult—or one of your pastors. Pastor Saul and I are always available to talk to you and we want you to know how much we care about each and every one of you.

The season we are entering into in the church year is called “Epiphany.” It’s a wonderful season because it is all about light—It’s about the wise men who found Jesus, the

light of the world.

This Epiphany, especially when the days feel kinda dark, I pray that God’s light would lighten your path—and that the light of Jesus would shine brightly in each and every one of your lives.

God’s Peace,



Pastor J. J. J.

Fly K4 and Fly 57 Schedule:

January 7 Fly 57

January 14 Fly K4

January 21 Fly 57

January 28 Fly K4

Are you in 8-12th Grade? Please join us for a SuperFLY Mystery Dinner on Wednesday, Jan. 21, beginning at 6:30 PM. What will we be eating? Who will

be serving us? Will there be dessert? It’s a mystery! Come and join us for lots of laughs and some mystery food. See you then!



The 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering Team would like to thank the congregation for their support of the winter Coffee & Lefse fundraisers! We are grateful for each and every one of you.